

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3139

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 5787

EXDIS

ARA FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY KUBISCH FROM CHARGE

E.O. 11652: XGDS

TAGS: PFOR, US, AR (CARLOS ALBERTO REY)

SUBJECT: GOA REQUESTS AGREEMENT FOR NEW AMBASSADOR

SUMMARY. GOA DIRECTOR OF PROTOCOL TODAY MADE FORMAL ORAL REQUEST FOR USG AGREEMENT TO APPOINTMENT RETIRED AIR FORCE LT GENERAL CARLOS ALBERTO REY AS ARGENTINE AMBASSADOR TO UNITED STATES, STATING THIS ACTION INDEPENDENT OF POSSIBLE GOA PNG ACTION AGAINST US CHARGE.
END SUMMARY

1. DURING DINNER LAST NIGHT AT GREEK EMBASSY, ACTING NATIONAL PROTOCOL DIRECTOR, MINISTER PABLO DEL PINO, TOOK ME ASIDE TO REQUEST THAT I COME TO HIS OFFICE AT 1000 HOURS TODAY TO RECEIVE FORMAL GOA REQUEST FOR AGREEMENT (PLACET) OF USG TO APPOINTMENT OF GENERAL REY AS AMBASSADOR TO UNITED STATES. IN DOING SO HE REMARKED THAT HE CONSIDERED THIS A FAVORABLE DEVELOPMENT IN GOA-USG RELATIONS SINCE THUS FAR NEW GOVERNMENT HAD APPOINTED AMBASSADORS ONLY TO ITALY, SPAIN AND PARAGUAY. THUS NEW GOVERNMENT WAS PUTTING WASHINGTON AHEAD OF SUCH OTHER IMPORTANT POSTS AS BRASILIA, LONDON, PARIS, MOSCOW, TEC.

2. MORNING PRESS TODAY HEADLINED AUTHORITATIVE FRONT PAGE REPORT THAT GOA INTENDS NOMINATE EX-PRESIDENT CAMPORA AND EX-VICE PRESIDENT SOLANO LIMA AS WELL AS GENERAL REY TO IMPORTANT AMBASSADORIAL POSTS. PRESS INDICATES PRESIDENT LASTIRI OFFERED APPOINTMENT YESTERDAY TO REY DURING INTERVIEW AT CASA ROSADA, WHILE CAMPORA TOLD PRESS CONFIDENTIAL

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AFTER MEETING WITH PERON AT LATTER'S RESIDENCE THAT PERON HAD TALKED TO HIM QUOTE ABOUT FOREIGN MISSION ON AMERICAN CONTINENT WHICH WOULD BE ENTRUSTED TO ME. UNQUOTE.

3. MY MEETING WITH PROTOCOL DIRECTOR DEL PINO LASTED ABOUT 15 MINUTES. HE MERELY HANDED ME TWO COPIES OF CURRICULUM VITAE ON REY AND CONFIRMED HIS STATEMENT OF LAST EVENING. THERE WAS NO RPT NO WRITTEN REQUEST.

4. I THEN TOLD DEL PINO, WHOM I KNOW RATHER WELL, THAT MY GOVERNMENT WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY WANT TO KNOW WHETHER THERE WAS ANY CONNECTION BETWEEN REQUEST FOR AGREEMENT AND CURRENT SITUATION REGARDING MY OWN STATUS. DEL PINO SAID THAT SO FAR AS HE WAS AWARE THE AGREEMENT REQUEST WAS BEING MADE ENTIRELY INDEPENDENT OF THE OTHER MATTER, WHICH HE SAID WAS REGARDED CLOSED (SUPERADA) AS FAR AS FOREIGN OFFICE CONCERNED. I THEN ADDED THAT, SPEAKING AS FRIEND, I THOUGHT HE SHOULD BEAR IN MIND THAT USG COULD HARDLY HELP BUT SEE SOME RELATION BETWEEN THESE TWO MATTERS. I ASSURED HIM, HOWEVER, THAT GOA REQUEST WOULD RECEIVE PROMPT CONSIDERATION.

5. I ALSO ASKED DEL PINO WHETHER REY APPOINTMENT HAD BEEN CONFIRMED BY ARGENTINE SENATE. HE REPLIED THAT IF SENATE HAD NOT ALREADY CONFIRMED REY APPOINTMENT SUCH ACTION COULD BE EXPECTED WITHIN NEXT DAY OR TWO. HE SAID HE ANTICIPATED ABSOLUTELY NO RPT NO PROBLEM ON THIS SCORE, ADDING THAT UNDER PRESENT GOVERNMENT THERE WAS NO RPT NO SET ORDER OF PROCEDURE AS BETWEEN SENATE CONFIRMATION AND REQUEST FOR AGREEMENT, BOTH HAVING OCCURRED IN PREVIOUS CASES MORE OR LESS SIMULTANEOUSLY.

6. I AM NOT RPT NOT TRANSMITTING BIO DATA ON GENERAL REY, SINCE DEPARTMENT HAS AMPLE FILE ON HZX. DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL, HOWEVER, THAT OF THE THREE MEMBERS OF JUNTA DE COMMANDANTES WHO COMPRISED PREVIOUS DE FACTO GOVERNMENT, REY CONSISTENTLY TOOK MOST CONCILIATORY POSITION TOWARD PERONIST PARTY AFTER MARCH ELECTIONS, AND PRIOR TO THAT TIME ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS TOOK FIRM STAND IN FAVOR OF PROCEEDING WITH ELECTORAL PROCESS IN MANNER WHICH ASSURED FAITHFUL EXPRESSION OF POPULAR WILL.

7. I WILL TRANSMIT SUGGESTIONS FOR HANDLING OF THIS REQUEST IN SEPARATE MESSAGE.

KREBS

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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